

**Virginia Department of Health
Pandemic Influenza Monthly Activity Report
September 2, 2008**

WORLDWIDE UPDATE

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has not posted any new human cases of avian influenza A/H5N1 since June 19. The count stands at 385 cases and 243 deaths (for a case-fatality ratio of 63.1%).

VDH ACTIVITIES – Central Office

- Virginia received notification that the CDC has chosen two of its projects submitted for consideration to receive additional public health emergency funding under a supplemental competitive award process:
 - ❖ The first project is “Collaborative Planning Initiative in an Urban Region to Ensure the Timely Delivery of Essential Services During a PanFlu Outbreak,” for which one million dollars has been awarded to enable hospitals in an urban region to maintain delivery of essential services while providing care for large numbers of influenza patients during a pandemic in the face of a scarcity of critical resources.
 - ❖ The second project will provide funding to a local health district (Fairfax Health District) to support the development, application and evaluation of interventions that promote preparedness for pandemic disease among identified Vulnerable Populations within a large urban county with the goal of decreasing the time needed to provide countermeasures and health guidance to those affected by threats to the public’s health. The funding amount requested was \$487,098, but the final approved amount has not yet been determined.
- The next PanFlu Advisory Group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 14 at the Holiday Inn Central, which is located at 3207 N. Boulevard in Richmond. If you plan to attend, please register for the meeting on TRAIN at <https://va.train.org>. Check-in on the 14th begins at 8:30am; the meeting starts at 9am and ends at 12:30pm.
- Central Office, Virginia Beach HD and New River HD representatives and Hospital counterparts met with DHHS Office of Inspector General personnel to discuss Virginia PanFlu planning status.
- Director Emergency Operations, Mt.Rogers Planner and University of Richmond Director of Safety Services and Risk Management presented “PanFlu Planning” at the Governor’s Campus Preparedness Conference.
- Commissioner, Alexandria Health Director and Director Emergency Operations met with Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO) to discuss PanFlu impact on at risk populations. Commissioner met with a second ASTHO group reviewing ethical considerations during a pandemic.
- Planning continues for CDC PanFlu Tabletop Exercise 16-18 Sep and Statewide FLUEX 20-21 Nov.
- Health Districts and EP&R Regions continue community outreach and coordinated PanFlu planning (refer to following VDH Pandemic Flu Activities Progress Report).

VDH ACTIVITIES – Regional Reports

- **Central Region**
 - VDH EP&R and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) conducted a joint full-scale exercise, testing the ability to transport, receive and distribute the CDC Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) “Push Pack,” involving approximately 50 tons of

medical supplies, antibiotics and equipment that would be used to respond to an emergency in the Commonwealth. The drill was an “unannounced” exercise for the CDC, testing its ability to alert and transport its Technical Advisory Response Unit staff as well as the CDC SNS “Push Pack” within the CDC’s timeframe target of 12 hours from alert to deployed status on the ground in the receiving state. CDC achieved its goal, with the “Push Pack” in position at the Central Virginia Receipt, Stage and Store Warehouse in about 11 hours from alert notification. The VDH Central Region RSS Warehouse demonstrated its capability to efficiently off-load the “Push Pack” at the Richmond International Airport; securely transport the “Push Pack” from the airport to the RSS Warehouse with Virginia State Police (VSP) escort; secure the RSS Warehouse location with VSP support; provide identification and just-in-time training to volunteer warehouse staff; off-load and position the “Push Pack” in the RSS Warehouse in approximately 45 minutes and prepare for distribution to Point of Dispensing (POD) sites across the state; simulated delivery of antibiotics to PODs using a new VDH-developed SNS “Push Pack” Inventory Management System; and, coordinated distribution with our ground transportation partner, United Parcel Service (UPS). In a PanFlu emergency, the Central Region RSS Warehouse would be the primary location in the Commonwealth to receive antiviral medications from the CDC’s Strategic National Stockpile and distribute them across the state with the help of UPS. The Health Alert Network (HAN) was used successfully to alert participants and partner agencies as part of the Central Region Receipt, Stage and Store Warehouse Exercise conducted jointly by the CDC and VDH.

- Trainer has developed a Volunteer Management System (VMS) training curriculum for VDH staff and conducted training and scheduled additional sessions scheduled for September and October. VMS is an automated volunteer registration system that is capable of registering volunteers, tracking volunteer credentialing and training levels and providing volunteer alerting capability. Using VMS in a PanFlu emergency will be essential in providing the manpower necessary to support VDH’s emergency POD operations and other essential functions.
- PIO and Planner continued work with the Richmond Times-Dispatch and Central CRI Region Directors and Planners in developing an electronic template for a newspaper supplement in the event of a Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) or other major emergency, such as PanFlu.
- Planner and Trainer continued to provide planning support for an upcoming joint PanFlu Tabletop Exercise scheduled for the week of October 20-24 with Henrico County and Henrico County Health Department.
- **Northern Region**
 - PIO, along with Lord Fairfax Health District staff, set up and manned VDH's Centennial exhibit for the six-day run of the Frederick County Fair, handing out hundreds of "Get Prepared/Stay Prepared" wristbands and information on PanFlu preparedness, as well as the public health services offered by the District.
 - Planner attended the Fairfax County Health Department’s “PUSH” Conference, which was aimed at developing partnerships with community organizations and agencies that provide services to homebound individuals and persons with special medical needs. This workshop, and follow-up training opportunities that are being available, will help organizations better respond to the needs of their at-risk populations during a public health emergency, such as an influenza pandemic.
- **Eastern Region**

- Nothing to report.
- **Southwest Region**
 - Planner, Trainer, Epidemiologist and Public Information Officer (PIO) participated in the facilitator training for the PanFlu Table Top Exercise for the Roanoke City/Alleghany District in September.
 - Planner, Trainer, Epidemiologist and PIO met to discuss planned activities including PanFlu exercises, PODs and other Region activities planned for the last four months of the year to ensure that the Region is actively participating in all of them.
 - PIO participated in the Mountain Empire Epidemiology Task Force in the Cumberland Plateau Health District where the focus was on seasonal flu prevention, public information, press conferences and related campaigns that are scheduled to be conducted in October '08.
 - Planner participated in and became certified by Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) and Department of Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) to plan, execute and evaluate exercise programs based on the national standard. This program will help in evaluating our PanFlu exercises.
 - PIO provided media training for the West Piedmont Health District and its participating hospitals, which would be used and potentially applied in the event of an PanFlu outbreak.
 - PIO attended the Near Southwest Preparedness Alliance (NSPA) meeting in Roanoke where hospital budgeting was discussed. These budget discussions contained public information regarding potential PanFlu exercising, distribution and jurisdictional PanFlu information and distribution of materials that would apply in the event of a PanFlu outbreak.
 - PIO met with Roanoke City and Norfolk Southern Railroad officials and the Roanoke Regional PIO group of communications professionals to review and prepare for the communications role in the up-coming Roanoke City Exercise Operation Thoroughbred Star to be held in September 2008.
 - Planner and PIO attended the Mountain Empire Public Health and Emergency Coordinating Committee in August. Representatives in attendance were from N.C., Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia. Many PanFlu items were discussed as well as other cross border issues related to Public Health.
 - Planner, Trainer and PIO attended the Mt. Rogers and SW Virginia Emergency Response Summit held in Wytheville. Many PanFlu areas were discussed, including schools and emergency plans including the potential for schools to have to shelter in place.
 - Regional PIO attended the Central Virginia Public Information Network interagency group of communications professionals working on Joint Information Center planning and protocols which would be useful in a PanFlu outbreak.
 - Planner participated at the warehouse site in the Statewide SNS Exercise held in Richmond. This training would be applied during a PanFlu outbreak.

VDH ACTIVITIES – Health District Reports

- **Alexandria**
 - Completed Medical Surge and Fatality Management Plans and a proposal for upgrade of District's communications capability.
 - Distributed over 1000 PanFlu brochures to and through business community and over 500 "Are You Ready" brochures in community.
 - Trained additional 55 Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) members concerning PanFlu.

- Preparing for next Mayor's PanFlu Working Group meeting.
- Coordinated fatality management planning with Arlington, including meeting with funeral directors.
- Planning flu vaccination drill in November directed toward testing District's ability to reach especially vulnerable people during a pandemic.
- **Arlington**
 - Continue to meet with representatives from the Virginia Hospital Center regarding the collaborative project to offer mask fitting to community physicians. One of the key topics is database management. Will schedule a formal training for fit testers on the PortaCount machine in September.
 - Production of PanFlu/Emergency Preparedness binders for medical offices continues. Recruiting volunteers to help with distribution to medical offices.
 - Volunteers from the MRC and public health staff interacted with the public and encouraged flu preparedness. A variety of multi-lingual materials was distributed. The fair also provided opportunities to network with some members of four faith congregations, four of which asked District to send materials including the CD-ROM compilations to the churches.
 - Contractor has begun to arrange multi-lingual PanFlu preparedness and response materials on the CD-ROM for inclusion in the binders for medical offices and community organizations.
 - Posters and dioramas are ready to be displayed at Arlington Metro stations from November '08 – February '09. Large foam board mounted reusable posters in English and Spanish are ready for display in schools and community centers. Two large flu prevention banners are in production. Planning to distribute samples of flu prevention materials to professionals working with frail elderly and disabled.
 - Prepared CDs of Health Director's tips for businesses on flu preparedness. Plan to arrange viewing opportunities on the county's website for the business community.
- **Central Shenandoah**
 - Planner attended Rockbridge County PanFlu Committee Meeting and is assisting with the help VDH Office of Epidemiology in Richmond to update the county's PanFlu Brochure.
 - Planner attended and completed the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program full training course held in Roanoke.
 - Epidemiologist presented preparedness information to Dominion Virginia Power staff based in Buena Vista.
 - Planner continues to work with District partners on the PUSH Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreements. Two additional agreements were executed, two are pending.
 - Planner gave emergency preparedness presentation containing PanFlu information to staff of Western State Hospital in Staunton.
- **Central Virginia**
 - District continues to coordinate its efforts on Pandemic response and preparedness with the community partners.
 - Immunization Nurse performed 16 face-to-face (during travel immunization clinics) briefings on pandemic awareness/preparedness.
 - Staff members were trained in setting up and tear down of the mobile drive-thru vaccination tent system (purchased with PanFlu grant funds). The system will be used this fall for a Point of Distribution (POD) exercise, which will provide annual flu vaccinations to the public.

- **Chesapeake**
 - Planner, EP&R Assistant, MRC Coordinator and Epidemiologist participated in the Virginia Department of Corrections Indian Creek Facility's PanFlu exercise planning meeting hosted by Chesapeake Emergency Management. Planner presented a PanFlu PowerPoint presentation explaining the importance of preparing for an influenza pandemic. EP&R Assistant has collected various hand washing and cough etiquette educational tools to provide to the Indian Creek Correctional Facility to increase Pan Flu prevention awareness amongst the facility's staff and inmates.
 - EP&R Assistant provided follow up PanFlu planning resources to the Hampton Roads business representatives who attended the 2008 "Taking Care of Business" Business Continuity Planning Seminar. The attendees were sent an invitation to view a free webinar entitled "The Pandemic Threat: Will You Be Prepared?" sponsored by the Disaster Recovery Journal.
- **Chesterfield**
 - Planner and Epidemiologist participated in a health fair for Chesterfield County Public School personnel. The display was focused on PanFlu and provided information on PanFlu, general emergency preparedness and District's MRC.
 - Planner met with PanFlu planning committee of Lucy Corr Village to develop the facility's plan.
- **Chickahominy**
 - Continued Planning for our Dispensing Clinic Exercise set for November 13.
 - Ordered supplies and materials for the PanFlu Exercise.
 - Held meeting of the PanFlu ICS planning team including community partners.
- **Crater**
 - District PanFlu Health staff has launched a "Be a Germ Stopper, Before They Stop YOU!" campaign designed just for schools, focusing on proper hygiene practices, as well as "Pandemic Influenza: Planning for the Possibility" focusing on pandemic and emergency preparedness for school staff. As health-conscious schools, in letters addressed to the principals, they were encouraged to sign up for presentations to equip students with sensible hygienic practices that will assist in protecting against the spread of germs for coming new school year.
 - Fifth edition of "The Flu Flash" newsletter was blast faxed to all primary care physicians, nursing homes and hospital infection control practitioners in the District, informing them of influenza updates and PanFlu tidbits. In a highlighted story focusing on the Olympics, there were concerns about Avian Flu when two birds were found dead at a Hong Kong equestrian site.
 - MRC information was disseminated to senior citizens during a Petersburg Triad meeting. Information from the meeting was also gathered concerning "The Digital TV Transition" presented by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), which was distributed to MRC volunteers to pass on to their communities.
 - New District MRC is becoming an "old hat," holding its second orientation and training. MRC Coordinator conducted the orientation, and the Central Region Training Coordinator gave an overview of National Incident Management System/Incident Command System (NIMS)/(ICS) 700. Planner also distributed "September is National Preparedness Month" Community Kits for each MRC volunteer to take an active role in preparing their neighbors in their community and/or co-workers at their places of employment. Each kit was supplied with various types of brochures and handouts about emergency preparedness (in English and Spanish). District also hosted the MRC Monthly Meeting.

- **Cumberland Plateau**

- Epidemiologist, PanFlu Coordinator and several Environmental Health Specialists presented the Flu Clues (incorporates pandemic preparedness) Program and Environmental Health Issues at the four District School Systems' Fall In-services.
- Director, Epidemiologist, Nurse Supervisors/Manager, Planner and PanFlu Coordinator participated in a joint teleconference with Lenowisco to begin to finalize plans for the 2008 Flu Clues Program for area schools.
- Epidemiologist, Planner, and PanFlu Coordinator are conducting Individualized Health Alert Network (HAN) trainings in District's four county offices.
- Epidemiologist and PanFlu Coordinator, along with Lenowisco's Planner and Epidemiologist attended a MRC recruitment activity at the University of Appalachia's College of Pharmacy in Gundy, VA, where PanFlu and Mass Dispensing were discussed and to assist with enrolling MRC members there.
- Planner participated in the full program of The Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP), which will be used during FluEx'08 to achieve objective assessments of the District's capabilities so that strengths and areas for improvement are identified, corrected and shared as appropriate prior to a real public health incident.
- Planner is procuring backup power generators for the health departments in Buchanan and Dickenson Counties with FY07 carryover funds to prepare for a possible emergency situation where electrical power disruptions may occur during a PanFlu epidemic.
- Planner completed the Local Technical Assistance Review Report that could be useful to demonstrate the difference between Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) regulated and rural districts within the Commonwealth during an influenza pandemic.
- PanFlu Coordinator and Planner met with public school administrators to discuss PanFlu preparedness planning efforts for incorporation into the School Crisis, Emergency Management and Medical Emergency Response Plans.
- Director, Epidemiologist, Planner and PanFlu Coordinator attended the Mountain Empire Public Health Emergency Coordination Council (MEPHECC) meeting in Johnson City, TN, where PanFlu was discussed.
- Epidemiologist, Planner and PanFlu Coordinator attended the Southwest Virginia Disaster Preparedness Summit in Wytheville, VA.

- **Eastern Shore**

- Communicable Disease Nurse conducted three training sessions (total of 60 participants) for the Head Start Program; the sessions focused on proper hand washing techniques and PanFlu. Brochures were distributed, and a hand washing demonstration was conducted using Glo-Germ and a black light.
- Epidemiologist and Planner presented information to Accomack County school nurses about reportable diseases, school surveillance activities, hand washing and sanitizing of surfaces. Influenza germ stop kits and hand sanitizers were distributed to ten nurses within the school district.

- **Fairfax**

- PanFlu team presented PanFlu education and preparedness information to the following: Greater Mount Vernon Community Head Start; Gum Springs Child Care Center- South County; United Community Ministries- South County; I AM PREPARED, R YOU? Inc. Alexandria; Women and Child (WIC) Program in Falls Church (multiracial groups participated); Hispanic Institute for Blindness Prevention, Inc.; Early Head Start/Head Start Program Staff at Government Center, Hispanic

- Heritage Planning Committee and Vietnamese Heritage Cultural Night in Fairfax.; Metropolitan Council for Latin Health Quarterly Meeting; Vietnamese Resource Fair sponsored by Department of Family Services, Centerville; Asian Annual Festival Celebration in Reston; Silver Light Chinese American Senior Association in Herndon; and, Asian American History Project Panel in Annandale.
- Director was interviewed by Hispanic Newspaper El Tiempo Latino Hispanic to talk about the Multicultural Advisory Council (MAC) and their contribution in our communities.
 - Director was invited to present to a local non-for profit business venture-Mid-Atlantic Disaster Recovery Association (MADRA) on PanFlu and Emergency Preparedness. Director was accompanied by the PIO.
 - **Hampton**
 - Meeting with Langley Air Force Base, continue with discussions about PanFlu response and future combined (USAF/HHD/COH) dispensing exercises.
 - Epidemiologist met with nursing, adult care and assisted living agencies discussing outbreaks at facilities and PanFlu planning and response.
 - Assistant Planner met with Hampton City Schools to discuss PanFlu response, school closings and use of schools as additional dispensing centers for school staff, students and their families as well as the surrounding residents. This would be a small and limited Quick Dispensing Center (QDC).
 - Meeting with Hampton University (HU) Schools of Pharmacy and Nursing to finalize QDC dispensing operation scheduled for September 19, at the HU Student Ballroom. Discussions also included PanFlu but have been tabled until after the exercise.
 - Child Fair 2008, EP&R set up booth with PanFlu and emergency preparedness information was passed out. Display included a set-up where children examined their hands under black light and then played with toys or looked at pictures and brochures that had been “contaminated” with Glow Germ, an invisible powder that fluoresces under black light, and then asked to examine their hands again. Transfer of viruses and bacteria was explained to parents. The child or parent was then asked to use an alcohol base hand cleaner (give-away) and re-examine hands again. During child fair police radios were used for site to site and site to HHD (Victoria) communications.
 - Director and planner attended WebEOC training; two HAN and one phone alerts to senior staff. Required staff training in 100 percent compliance with EP&R training requirements.
 - **Henrico**
 - Planner continued to plan a PanFlu Table-top exercise, using HSEEP guidelines, with County Emergency Manager and HSEEP consultant.
 - Epidemiologist sent weekly avian influenza updates via email to community partners.
 - District sent monthly Public Health Bytes newsletter, which includes a Pandemic/Avian Flu update) to local healthcare facilities, medical providers, schools, first responders, county officials and other interested parties.
 - MRC/PanFlu Coordinator continued MRC emergency preparedness training sessions for both eastern and western MRC units in Henrico County, participated in the YMCA Community Health and Wellness Fair, presented PanFlu information to local church congregation and Chestnut Grove long term care facility and attended Bank of America Health Fair, distributing PanFlu and emergency preparedness materials.
 - **Lenowisco**
 - PanFlu, VDH Disaster Supply Kit list, Ready Virginia Emergency Plan and “Are You Ready for a Heat Wave?” materials were distributed by Health Educator to 122

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) contract employees and their families at their annual appreciation picnic at Natural Tunnel State Park. Additional packets of information were left at the park for distribution to campers.

- PanFlu materials, along with packets of public health materials on a variety of issues were distributed to Scott County teacher's aides and school nurses. Also, Flu Clues registration materials were forwarded to 38 public schools and one private school for distribution to elementary, primary and middle school students/parents/teachers/staff. It is anticipated that the initial vaccine clinics will begin in October.
- Epidemiologist and Nurse Manager made presentations to Lee and Wise Counties and City of Norton school principals on the upcoming Flu Clues project.
- Epidemiologist and Epidemiological Nurse gave presentation to nursing home staff on the importance of season flu shots for patients, staff and their respective families.
- Director, Epidemiologist and Nurse Practitioner serve on the Mountain Empire Epi Taskforce, which met to further develop its upcoming public information campaign to increase awareness of the need for seasonal flu shots to the residents in Upper East Tennessee, Southwest Virginia, Western North Carolina and southeastern Kentucky. This campaign is expected to be launched in September.
- Director, Epidemiologist and Planner attended the Southwest Virginia Disaster Preparedness Summit in Wytheville. Other attendees included over 200 federal, state, local, private non-profit and non-governmental organization representatives for training on emergency management, Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) and Crisis Management with an emphasis on PanFlu preparation.
- Director, Epidemiologist and Planner attended the Mountain Empire Public Health Emergency Coordinating Council meeting where public health representatives from North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia presented updates on Emergency Preparedness and Epidemiological issues and activities.
- MRC orientation and presentation on preparedness, including PanFlu, was presented to 127 students of the University of Appalachia's College of Pharmacy; 40 students enrolled in the Southwest VA MRC. In attendance were the PanFlu Coordinator and Epidemiologist from the Cumberland Plateau Health District, and the Epidemiologist and Planner from Lenowisco.
- **Lord Fairfax**
 - Served as lead controller for the overnight shift of the VA/CDC Full Scale SNS exercise, in Richmond. Served in exercise capacity as stand in SNS coordinator, PIO and Virginia EOC to facilitate exercise play for the receipt, storage and staging of SNS assets in the Commonwealth as well as keep the exercise on track. Participation in this exercise provided the opportunity to exercise response plans which may be necessary in the event of a biological event including a pandemic for which medical asset and resource management would be vital
 - Attended Web EOC training in Winchester to ensure continued integration of VDH into the local Emergency Management organization through standard processes employed through Web EOC which would be necessary for communications and resource tracking and management during all types of emergency events.
 - Attended the NW Regional Hospital Emergency Management Committee meeting in Harrisonburg to present the second draft of the NW Regional Hospital Emergency Coordination Plan that would be employed on large scale events such as a pandemic; purpose is to ensure coordination and asset/resource management between the hospitals in the region

- Met with the Shenandoah University School of Health Professions (Nursing, Pharmacy and Student Medical Services) to begin drafting an MOU for the development and deployment of Health Professions Strike Teams. These teams would be used to supplant medical staffing at PODs or Alternate Care Sites, Shelters, etc., as part of the District response and would be a special section of the District MRC.
- Conducted an SNS Security Assessment and site review of the new Skyline High School in Warren County with Emergency Management and District Nurse Manager, reviewed the school layout for use as a clinic or POD in the event of a public health emergency such as a pandemic, this is also a corrective action to the CDC Technical Assessment.
- Attended the Northern Shenandoah Valley Emergency Management Team meeting to view a presentation to the group by Virginia Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), during which the committee voted to review the VOAD proposal of forming a regional VOAD chapter in the Valley that could be called upon to assist in the response and recovery from various types of emergencies.
- Conducted SNS Security and site assessments of all three high schools in Frederick County in conjunction with Frederick County Emergency Management and Frederick County Sheriffs Office personnel, reviewed the schools layout for use as a clinic or POD in the event of a public health emergency such as a pandemic, this is also a corrective action to the CDC Technical Assessment and part of the annual District plan review and update.
- **Loudoun**
 - Provided PanFlu presentations to Loudoun County Parks and Recreation staff and to Long & Foster real estate agents and managers in Sterling.
 - Continued PanFlu information distribution to apartment complexes, pharmacies, community centers, and libraries in Loudoun County.
 - Distributed PanFlu preparedness pamphlets at Leesburg Police-sponsored National Night Out in two neighborhoods in Leesburg, a summer concert in the Brambleton Town Center and over 500 pamphlets to attendees of the Family Fest at the Dulles Town Center.
 - District's article on PanFlu preparedness for businesses was published in August issue of bizConnect, the monthly newsletter of the Loudoun Chamber of Commerce.
- **Mount Rogers**
 - Planner coordinated with Grayson County on revising the local EOP, to include ESF-8 and PanFlu Annexes. Planner also presented an overview of ESF organizational structure.
 - Planner attended the Wythe County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meeting. Planner was requested to provide assistance in completing Local Capability Assessment for Readiness (LCAR) as it relates to public health and medical questions.
 - Planner and Director facilitated the Southwest Virginia Disaster Preparedness Summit. Discussions included emergency management basics, the role of senior leaders during disaster, COOP and school crisis management planning, with a focus on PanFlu planning and response. Approximately 180 individuals from local, state and federal agencies, hospitals and private sector participated in the Summit.
- **New River**
 - Director, Infection Control Nurse, Epidemiologist and Planner continue taking every opportunity to communicate PanFlu preparedness to public agencies, private

business, civic groups and faith organizations. Epidemiologist and Infection Control Nurse presented PanFlu information to regional and local Head Start Program personnel, and Planner and Epidemiologist provided information about PanFlu/all hazards preparedness during their Crisis Management Planning for Schools, Colleges and Universities presentation at the Southwest Virginia Disaster Preparedness Summit Senior Leaders Seminar.

- **Norfolk**

- LEPC discussed need for review and update of PanFlu policies and procedures for the November exercise.
- PanFlu family planning books were received to distribute to local private schools.
- Worked with city leaders on Project Homeless Connect 6 to identify vulnerable populations prior to a PanFlu event.

- **Peninsula**

- Provided copy of state plan and template for localities to York County at their request as they are due for a re-write of the county's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), which includes PanFlu; also provided the county with estimates on attack rates and mortalities.

- **Piedmont**

- Delivered infection control / hand washing, presentation to children's day camp.
- Continue work on influenza-based dispensing exercise for District to be held in the fall.
- Working with local partners regarding participation in the statewide PanFlu exercise in November.

- **Pittsylvania-Danville**

- Provided an updated version of the VDH PanFlu DVD to the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research for employee training purposes.

- **Portsmouth**

- Dialog continues with Naval Medical Center Portsmouth and NAVMEDEAST regarding medical surge, availability of care for dependents and deployment of naval personnel during a pandemic event.
- Responded to recommendation request from local American Red Cross (ARC) chapter regarding planning for continued blood donations during a pandemic event. Discussed with Planner, Epidemiologist and Nurse Manager. Recommendations include considering scheduling appointments for donors to reduce potential social contact and developing a short questionnaire to evaluate potential donor's exposure to influenza – prior to appointment. This discussion will most likely continue the next several months as the ARC develops specific policies and procedures.

- **Prince William**

- "Operation Osbourn Park" PanFlu PODs exercise date has been changed from November 8 to October 28, which was driven by availability of Osbourn Park High School facilities that will be used during the exercise. Director, Planner and staff continue to prepare for the exercise with Prince William County (PWC) Schools, PWC Offices of Emergency Management and Public Works, the Voluntary Action Center and MRC. Prince William Area Red Cross will participate. Exercise radio training is scheduled for District staff. Materials being designed for student/parent notification and permission. Health Ed and Special Ed classes (approximately 750 individuals) selected for exercise. A successful radio communications check was conducted by the exercise Communications Chief at Osbourn Park High School.

- **Rappahannock**

- Planner distributed PanFlu awareness booklets to disAbility Resource Center caregivers, Fredericksburg Social Services departments' clients and provided PanFlu DVDs to regional libraries for their patrons.
- Planner met with regional jail regarding a table-top exercise later this year.
- **Rappahannock-Rapidan**
 - District staff gave presentations to three community groups on PanFlu and All Hazards Preparedness.
 - Materials on PanFlu and Preparedness were distributed to teachers and staff in all five counties.
 - District staff and MRC volunteers put together displays on PanFlu for Preparedness Month in September. Displays will be delivered to town and county government offices, Senior Centers and libraries in all five counties.
 - Fauquier Hospital Emergency Preparedness team discussed the plans for FluEx'08 and their projected involvement.
 - Health District leadership staff participated in ICS training in preparation for ICS 300 in September.
 - Planner submitted an article on PanFlu and Preparedness to the Culpeper County Chamber of Commerce newsletter.
 - Materials for a September Preparedness/PanFlu mailing to churches and businesses were printed and assembled for mailing.
 - Displays at each of District's local health departments (LHDs) were updated with preparedness and PanFlu information.
- **Richmond City**
 - Planning a PanFlu exercise in conjunction with city's Office of Emergency Management for October 28 and expanded activities relating to FluEx'08 in November.
 - MRC volunteers have assisted with back-to-school immunizations to increase familiarity with District's procedures.
 - Richmond City Sheriff's Department continues training its staff members with PanFlu DVD provided by District.
- **Roanoke/Alleghany County**
 - Final meetings held to prepare for PanFlu Tabletop Exercise on September 17.
 - Contractor hired to write PanFlu Plan for District. Draft is produced and being reviewed.
 - Epidemiologist from Roanoke City and Planner attended Emergency Preparedness Seminar in Wytheville.
- **Southside**
 - Nothing reported.
- **Thomas Jefferson**
 - Updated District PanFlu Plan Template for Schools and presented it to all six jurisdictions' School Superintendents in the District during a roundtable discussion with them to discuss a protocol for closing schools within the District during a pandemic.
- **Three Rivers**
 - Planner and MRC volunteers distributed PanFlu and hand-washing literature at Gloucester and Richmond Counties' fairs.
 - Planner provided briefings on recent District PanFlu activity at two local public health system assessment retreats.

- Planner met with consultant hired by Gloucester County to rewrite their EOP. Discussed District's plans for mass vaccination and prophylaxis.
- **Virginia Beach**
 - Exercise Planning Team is meeting for the November Pandemic Statewide Exercise. Planning to exercise our virtual EOC for two days, more to come.
 - Continue to provide booklets and brochures to city offices to get message out for flu season.
 - In the process of setting up clinic plans for the fall for VBMRC to provide flu shots to seniors and will utilize the time to provide materials on both seasonal and pandemic influenza.
- **West Piedmont**
 - Planner distributed the monthly PanFlu Newsletter to all three committees in the District and to District staff; it covered current WHO statistics and an update on the issue of Indonesia delaying test samples to WHO. Indonesia was reporting a bird flu outbreak with 13 people infected with bird flu and three subsequent deaths.
 - Planner has contacted the three remaining school systems without PanFlu plans, one of whom has a plan being reviewed by the School Board, and the other two are still in the process of planning and writing.
- **Western Tidewater**
 - Nothing to report.